



Helen Hazel Tepley

April 14, 1933 - October 23, 2024

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Helen Hazel Horne Tepley passed away peacefully early Wednesday morning on October 23, 2024, at Paramount Senior Living in Manassas, Virginia. Helen was born on April 14, 1933, the third of four children and the only daughter, to H. Liston Horne, Sr. and Verona Rouse Horne in Allendale County, South Carolina.

Helen was a graduate of Allendale High School in 1951, of Anderson Women's College in 1953, and of the University of South Carolina in 1955. She taught English and Art for two years at Chesapeake City High School in Chesapeake City, Maryland, before moving to Augusta, Georgia, where she was employed as a secretary for DuPont at the Savannah River Plant for eight years. Helen decided that she wanted to travel the world, so she went to work for the U.S. State Department in 1964. She was posted to the U.S. Embassy in Columbo, Sri Lanka, where she met Douglas Tepley, who also worked for the U.S. Government. They married in Sri Lanka in 1965, honeymooned in Hong Kong, and raised their family overseas for several years; living in Iran, Tunisia, Spain, England and Hungary before returning to the United States in 1976. After their divorce, Helen continued to live in Warrenton, Virginia until 1988, when she moved to Manassas, Virginia.

Helen was a career employee of the Civilian Human Resources Division, U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, where she gave 30 years of service from 1980 until her retirement in 2010. Although her workplace location changed several times during her employment, from Vint Hill Farms Station in Warrenton, to Fort Belvoir, to the Arlington-Alexandria area, she was greatly appreciated by her colleagues in each location. Her pleasant attitude and dedication, and the thoroughness and quality of her work earned her the lasting esteem and friendships of many people; she was recognized with several outstanding service awards during her long career.

Helen was a loving mother, grandmother, sister and friend, and will be deeply missed. She was happy with simple pleasures in life, but most content when spending time with her family and friends. Her appreciation of movies, music, art and particularly books was constant throughout her life, and she passed her love for the arts on to her children and her grandchildren.

Helen is survived by: daughter Susannah Rosenberg and her husband Scott; son Kevin Tepley and his wife Prema; grandsons Logan Rosenberg, Luke Rosenberg, Travis Tepley and granddaughter Sitara Tepley, all of Virginia; sister-in-law Christene Horne, of South Carolina; nieces and nephews Karen Horne Jackson, Melissa Horne Polk, David Horne, Michael Horne, and Cheryl Horne Hardesty, and their families, all of South Carolina.

Helen was preceded in death by: both parents; older brother H. Liston Horne, Jr. and Liston's wife May, late of Virginia; older brother Robert A. Horne, late of South Carolina; and younger brother Jacky V. Horne, late of South Carolina.

A viewing will be held on Tuesday, October 29, 2024, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, at Pierce Funeral Home located at 9609 Center St, Manassas, Virginia

20110. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at 11:00 am, also at Pierce Funeral Home. Burial will follow at Stonewall Memory Gardens, 12004 Lee Hwy, Manassas, Virginia 20109.

Helen's family would like to convey their deep appreciation and respect for the staff of Paramount Senior Living, Manassas, particularly for those who worked in the Memory Care Ward; and also to the hospice staff of VITAS Healthcare who cared for her during her final days. Donations in Helen's memory may be made to: the Alzheimer's Association (www.alz.org), and to the Hospice Foundation of America (hospicefoundation.org).

Cemetery Details

Stonewall Memory Gardens

12004 Lee Highway
Manassas, VA 20109
<http://www.stonewallmemorygardens.com>

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **29**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home
9609 Center St.
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-6028
pfh@piercefh.com
<https://www.piercefh.com>

Funeral Service

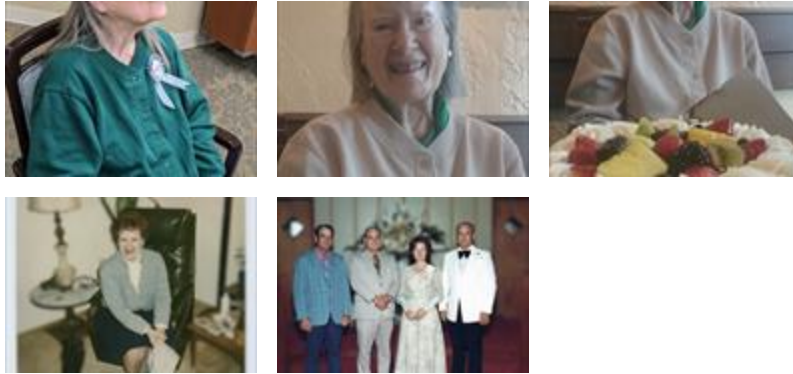
OCT **30**. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home
9609 Center St.
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-6028
pfh@piercefh.com
<https://www.piercefh.com>

Tribute Wall

SR

“ 8 files added to the album *Helen Tepley Pictures*



Susannah Rosenberg - November 08, 2024 at 11:53 AM

AS

“ *For the past decade, Grandma Helen was a beloved part of my winter holidays and celebrations. We would meet at Thanksgiving and Christmas, share a meal together, exchange pleasantries and gifts, her warmth and kindness always shining through. She never failed to inquire about my parents and wish me luck with school. A soft and kind-hearted woman, her presence brought joy and comfort to my expatriate life.*

Her stories always left me with a sense of homecoming and happiness. She had a unique way of making everyone feel special and loved. Her thoughtful gestures, whether it was a handwritten note or a small, meaningful gift, showed how much she cared.

As we gather this holiday season, her absence will be deeply felt. The memories we shared will forever be cherished, and her legacy of love and kindness will live on with us. She will be deeply missed, but her spirit will always remain in our hearts.

Ashwin - October 28, 2024 at 10:08 PM

SI

“ Grandma Helen was an amazing grandmother. She always showed up to school performances and was the sweetest person ever. When I was little, I used to get so excited when she would stay overnight for Thanksgiving so she could be around another day. Dear grandma, I hope you are doing well and thanks for always being there for me. Sincerely, your granddaughter Sitara.

Sitara - October 28, 2024 at 09:28 PM

SH

“ Helen was a great person, warm hearted and friendly. We had the opportunity to meet and spend time with her when visiting Kevin and Prema. She was a collector of cultural artifacts and admirer of all sects of people. We were pleasantly surprised when she showed us a few childhood photographs of our family members from her personal collection. She truly loved all her close ones. We are grateful for the loving bond she shared with Prema and all of us. The time we spent with her will forever live in our memories.

May her soul rest in peace.

-Shashi & Hema

Shashidharan - October 28, 2024 at 02:16 PM

TT

“ I loved grandma very much, she was nice, most loving and friendly and she loved me very much too. She was funny and cool too, she watched star wars and pixar movies with me and said I love you in my ears always, with a kiss on my cheeks. I will love you always wherever you are, grandma and I miss you.

Yours loving grandson
Travis

Travis T - October 27, 2024 at 10:17 PM

“ When I first met Helen, my mother-in-law, a burst of simple joy washed over me. I felt blessed to meet such a warm, gracious, and good-natured woman. Growing up in an Indian familial culture and traditions, connecting with her was refreshing, like embarking on a new adventure.

She told me then, “I want you to know I’m like your mother here, and you can turn to me for anything you need. I’ll even spill all the secrets about Kevin.” :)

Over the years, she turned out to be like a “double agent” in a good way, and she secretly stole my heart along the way:) Her warmth and genuine approach drew me in, making every shared moment feel authentic.

Our conversations about spirituality and beliefs were deep and transformative. She embraced my gifts, even proudly hanging a beautiful painting of Lord Krishna and Radha in her home.

I still cherish the day she gifted me my first book about The Beatles’ visit to Rishikesh, part of our shared love for their music.

Her sense of humour and graciousness brought everyone together. She would regale us with captivating stories from her travels around the world, and her passion for history, music, and royal families from various parts of the world truly inspired us with her curiosity about different cultures and their history.

She had a special knack for making our birthdays and special occasions unforgettable, with thoughtful presents and preparing savoury dinners that reflected her warm heart. Family holidays and celebrations were cozy and inviting with her delightful presence. She had a natural flair for creating a special place for sweets, welcoming family with open arms and endless graciousness.

She also had a stash of presents for special occasions, each

labeled "from your secret admirer." Each reveal was an invitation to imagine the stories behind those anonymous gestures.

As a grandmother, she had a lasting impact on our children's lives, attending dance and music performances and other events like theater and martial arts. She made their birthdays and weekends special, and our children looked forward to meeting her again.

Helen was also a calming spirit in our toughest times, supporting us through both struggles and joys. She offered her support and advice to us and was always ready to lend a helping hand.

She truly was a devoted and selfless soul, and she also connected with our pets. I remember how much she was fond of our late pets, Cadbury (golden retriever, 14 February 2001 - 9 March, 2014), and Moki (eclectus parrot 21 July 2016 - 23 April 2023); Cadbury always got excited when we mentioned going to see his grandma, while Moki loved sitting close to hear her soft whispering voice.

The last few years were challenging as she bravely battled Alzheimer's. Even in her toughest moments, she greeted everyone with a gentle spirit and warm smile. Her absence has left a void in our lives, but her pure soul will always resonate within us.

I truly believe this connection was destined, with Kevin as the perfect bridge that connected us. ;) It was a beautiful connection - one that I will always cherish. I feel incredibly fortunate to have shared my life with her.

I will miss her dearly, but I hold our relationship close to my heart.

In the end, I also realise that the "secret admirer" was, in truth, the divine essence itself, transcending the boundaries of our time in the physical world.

Your Loving Daughter-in-Law,

Prema

Prema T - October 27, 2024 at 02:23 PM

KT

“ 7 files added to the album *Helen Tepley Pictures*



Kevin Tepley - October 27, 2024 at 02:01 PM